

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8582

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: REPORT OF MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND AHEPA
LEADERS

1. TO VIMA RAN EXCLUSIVE STORY FRONT PAGE APRIL 29 UNDER
HEADLINE: "FORD DEMANDED THAT GREEK-AMERICANS SUPPORT
ANKARA" WITH SUB-HEADLINE: "HE CRITICIZED VOTE OF GREEKS
IN LOCAL ELECTIONS." STORY WAS DATELINED WASHINGTON,
"FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT", AND REPORTED ON MEETING BETWEEN
PRESIDENT AND TWELVE MEMBER BOARD OF AHEPA IN WASHINGTON
APRIL 25 WHICH, IT STATED, WAS AT INITIATIVE OF WHITE
HOUSE. STORY SAID SECRETARY KISSINGER ATTENDED MEETING
BUT MADE FEW COMMENTS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, PRESIDENT FORD ASKED THE
GREEK-AMERICANS TO STOP PUTTING PRESSURE ON CONGRESS
AGAINST THE RESUMPTION OF AID TO TURKEY ARGUING THAT ONLY
IF AID IS RESTORED CAN THE U.S. INFLUENCE ANKARA ON THE
CYPRUS PROBLEM. PRESIDENT STATED HE EXPECTS TO MEET WITH
PRIME MINISTERS CARAMANLIS AND DEMIREL AT THE NATO MEETING
THE END OF MAY. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT THE PRESIDENT ALSO
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ALLEGEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERN TO HIS VISITORS ABOUT SUCCESS OF

LEFTWING CANDIDATES IN RECENT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN GREECE.

3. THE AHEPA LEADERS REPORTEDLY TOLD THE PRESIDENT THEY WOULD NOT STOP THEIR EFFORTS WITH THE CONGRESS TO FIND A JUST SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND AGAINST THE RESUMPTION OF AID TO TURKEY. THEY WOULD BE HAPPY TO DO SO AS SOON AS THE TURKS MAKE SIGNIFICANT GESTURES.
KUBISCH

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